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METHOD FOR PREPARING HIGH MOLECULAR  
WEIGHT POLYCARBONATE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of preparing polycarbonate by the melt process comprising the steps of:

a) melting a dihydric phenol and a diester of carbonic acid for a time and at a temperature sufficient to form a melt; and thereafter introducing a catalyst composition comprising a tetraorganophosphonium salt or a derivative thereof and

1) an alkali and/or alkali earth metal compound or derivative thereof or

2) a less active alkali and/or alkali earth metal derivative thereof

into the melt; and

b) oligomerizing the product from step a) to a number average molecular weight of from about 3000 to about 7500 ; and

c) polymerizing the product from step b) to a number average molecular weight of from about 16,000 to about 35,000.